GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:493
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2005
FOOD FOR WORK PROGRAMME
Sahu Shri Chandra Sekhar;Singh Baba Shri K.C.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food for Work Programme initiated in November, 2004 has achieved the desired results;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the quality of foodgrains released under the scheme;

(c) whether the States, where the programme has been implemented, have asked for more foodgrains to implement the scheme;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government has received reports from these States about the utilization of foodgrains supplied to them under this scheme;

(e) the steps taken/proposed to check blackmarketing of foodgrains released under this scheme;

(f) whether the Union Government has issued any guidelines for the effective implementation of the scheme;

(g) if so, whether State Governments are implementing this scheme as per guidelines;

(h) the allocation made under this scheme for 2005-06 alongwith the utilization of funds allocated for 2004-05;

(i) whether the Government has reviewed the implementation of this scheme; and

(j) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (j) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement as referred to in Reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 493 for answer on 29.04.2005.

(a) & (b) The National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) launched in November 2004 is under implementation in the identified 150 most backward Districts of the country with the objective of providing additional supplementary wage employment and food security to the rural poor through creation of need based, economic, social and community assets/infrastructure. The programme is on going in nature and its continuous and regular implementation would ensure attainment of its objectives. Since, the programme has been launched from November 2004, the performance reports from all the States are expected by May 2005. The Ministry has not received any complaint regarding the poor quality of foodgrains distributed under the programme.

(c) & (d) The NFFWP is a allocation based programme. Under the programme the entire allocation is distributed among the identified Districts based on defined criteria and as such there is no scope of providing more foodgrains than the entitled share. Moreover, no such request was received during the year 2004-05. As has been mentioned in the para above the performance report from all the States are expected by May 2005.

(e) to (g) Yes, Sir. For the smooth and effective implementation of NFFWP, programme Guidelines has been framed and issued to all the State Governments and the Districts concerned. The focus of the programme will be on works relating to water conservation, drought proofing (including afforestation/tree plantation), land development, flood- control/protection (including drainage in waterlogged areas) and rural connectivity. A five-year Perspective Plan for the district and shelf of works, Block-wise and Gram Panchayat-wise, will be prepared under the programme in consultation with Panchayati Raj Institutions, local MPs and MLAs. The Guidelines provide for timely payment of wages not later than a fortnight and 5 kgs. of foodgrains per day will be given as part of the wage and minimum 25% of the wages will be given in cash. The Programme Guidelines also envisage strict and vigilant monitoring at each and every level of implementation. The monitoring mechanism includes supervision and monitoring by the Panchayats, 100% verification of works and test check of quality and cost would be carried out under the District Level Monitoring to be conducted by the independent agencies at the behest of the Ministry, mandatory provision of certain number inspection of works by the State, District, Divisional and Block level Officers to be reported to this Ministry every month. Besides, for every work sanctioned under the progrmme, there will be a monitoring committee of the villagers of the area comprising five to nine members. The report based on periodic assessment by this committee would be required at different stages beginning from commencement to the completion of a particular work.

(h) : The State-wise allocation of resources for 2005-06 is at Annexure-I and State-wise allocation of funds and utilization during 2004-05, so far reported by six States is at Annexure-II.

(i) & (j): Yes Sir, The programme implementation in major States was reviewed on 3rd March 2005, through video conferencing and again on 15th March 2005 in the meeting of the Performance Review Committee in which States have been asked to further accelerate the pace of utilization of resources and complete the preparation of Perspective Plan for Five Years. A series of regional workshops of the Collectors/ CEO of Zilla Panchayats or the authority nominated by the State Governments to implement the National Food for Work Programme are proposed to be held in the months of May and June.

ANNEXURE - I

Annexure as referred to in part (h) of Reply to Lok Sahha Starred Question No. 493 due for 29.04.2005

Allocation of Resources under National Food for Work Programme during 2005-06

Sl.No.	States	No. of Dists. of Allocation (Rs. in lakhs)	Allocation of Funds (IN MTs)		
			Wheat	Rice	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	8	27199.63	0	301948
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	425.26	-	-
3	Assam	5	37100.61	0	416151
4	Bihar	15	58812.89	0	655916
5	Chattisgarh	10	23181.35	0	262540
6	Gujarat	6	8895.33	98814	0
7	Haryana	1	627.62	6968	0
8	Himachal Pradesh	1	676.75	3337	4177
9	Jammu & Kashmir	2	1100.60	3589	8627
10	Jharkhand	14	50315.90	160249	398331
II	Karnataka	3	6514.20	14465	57855
12	Kerala	1	1218.36	4509	9017
13	Madhya Pradesh	15	3520.76	259507	131275
14	Maharashtra	11	34504.70	201426	181381
15	Manipur	1	889.78	0	9982
16	Meghalaya	1	1212.16	0	13601
17	Mizoram	1	212.89	0	2390
18	Nagaland	1	1015.71	5697	5697
19	Orissa	18	49621.06	0	551018
20	Punjab	1	1595.09	17711	0
21	Rajasthan	5	7866.58	87322	0
22	Sikkim	1	703.70	0	7897
23	Tamil Nadu	4	10803.45	0	119936
24	Tripura	1	3439.89	0	38585
25	Uttranchal	2	2259.88	8402	16681
26	Uttar Pradesh	15	58738.53	513459	138477
27	West Bengal	6	25496.32	0	283063
	Total	150	449630.00	1385455	3614545
					5000000

ANNEXURE- II

Annexure as referred to in part (h) of Reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 493 due for 29-04-2005

State-wise Allocation, Release & Utilizaiton of Funds under National Food for Work Programme during 2004-05

Sl.No.	States	No. of Districts	Funds (Rs. in lakhs)			% of Utili-
			Allocation	Released	Utilization	zation
1	Andhra Pradesh	8	12214.72	12214.72		
2	Arunachal Prade	1	190.80	190.80		
3	Assam	5	16645.79	16645.79		
4	Bihar	15	26411.54	26456.54	1030.89	3.90
5	Chattisgarh	10	10410.19	10410.19	2628.39	25.25

6 Gujarat	6	3994.69	3994.69		
7 Haryana	1	281.85	281.85		
8 Himachal Prades	1	303.91	303.91		
9 Jammu & Kashmir	2	494.26	494.26		
10 Jharkhand	14	22595.70	22595.70		
11 Karnatka	3	2925.38	2925.38		
12 Kerala	1	547.14	547.14		
13 Madhya Pradesh	15	15808.32	15808.32	2894.58	18.31
14 Maharashtra	11	15495.26	15495.26		
15 Manipur	1	399.22	399.22		
16 Meghalaya	1	543.85	543.85		
17 Mizoram	1	95.52	95.52		
18 Nagaland	1	455.72	455.72		
19 Orissa	18	22283.67	22283.67		
20 Punjab	1	716.32	716.32		
21 Rajasthan	5	3532.69	3532.69	1672.00	47.33
22 Sikkim	1	315.73	315.73	150.00	47.51
23 Tamil Nau	4	4851.58	4851.58	739.73	15.25
24 Tripura	1	1543.37	1543.37		
25 Uttranchal	2	1014.86	1014.86		
26 Uttar Pradesh	15	26378.11	26378.11		
27 West Bengal	6	11449.81	11449.81		
Total	150	201900.00	201945.00	9115.59	4.51